



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT
100 PENN SQUARE EAST
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107-3390

Executive Office

MAY 16 2016

Ms. Kelly Heffner
Deputy Secretary for Office of Water Management
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
400 Market Street Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-2063

Dear Ms. Heffner:

Section 1002 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) allows for greater transparency in the notification and reporting of feasibility study milestones and requires the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) District Engineer to provide non-Federal interests of written notification of five key milestone dates. The Act also requires that I notify you when a milestone is not met and to provide an explanation.

On September 11, 2015, I provided to you a study schedule for the *Susquehanna and Delaware River Basins Southern Anthracite Coal Region, Pine Knot, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania Interim Feasibility Study*. The Corps has been unable to meet the "Release of the Draft Feasibility Report Milestone" contained in that letter due to delays in resolving USACE policy concerns in regards to water quality. Additionally, the milestones were predicated on receiving technical information from your agency which has also been delayed. The table below provides an updated scheduled.

<u>Previous Milestone Date</u>	<u>Current Milestone Date</u>	<u>Milestone</u>
April 06, 2016	November 01, 2016	Release of the Draft Feasibility Report
December 29, 2016	July 26, 2017	District Submittal of the Final Feasibility Report
February 02, 2017	August 30, 2017	MSC Transmittal of the Final Feasibility Report
April 03, 2017	November 01, 2017	Civil Works Review Board
June 07, 2017	January 09, 2018	Signed Chief's Report

Schedules are based on the assumption of full-funding (Federal and non-Federal) over the course of the study. Up-to-date study schedules are posted and available to the public on the following website:

<http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Missions/Factsheets/GISchedules.aspx>. Additionally, all schedules and missed deadlines are submitted annually to Congress. If you have any questions please contact Erik Rourke, Chief Project Development Branch at (215) 656-6616 or through email at erik.j.rourke@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "A. Bliss", is written over a large, light-colored oval shape.

MICHAEL A. BLISS, P.E.
Lieutenant Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Commander

Copy Furnished:

Mr. Joe Vietri, North Atlantic Division USACE
Ms. Cathy Shuman, Headquarters USACE